(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) Benefits availed by the residents of Mauritius under Double Taxation Avoidance Convention with India does not amount to misuse. Presently there is no proposal to review the treaty with Mauritius.

Smuggling on Indo-Nepal and Indo-Pak Border

984. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaking any special efforts to deal with the cross border smuggling on Indian borders, especially on Indo-Nepal and Indo-Pak border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) In order to check cross border smuggling and other anti-India activities on Indo-Pak border, fencing/flood lighting works in Punjab and Rajasthan sectors has been completed. Further, Government has recently approved a comprehensive proposal for construction of fencing/flood lighting on a raised embankment, link roads, border roads and BOPs in 310 kms. of Rann area of Gujarat sector at an estimated cost of Rs. 380 Crores. This project will be executed approximately in 5 years. Similarly, a multi-modal approach for sealing the Jammu International Border has been approved by the Government recently. This work will be executed in one and a half years to two years time. DRI & field units under customs having jurisdiction over Indo-Pak border are also on high alert and vigilant to detect and prevent cross border smuggling of contraband goods.

As for Indo-Nepal border, to check cross border smuggling and other anti-India activities, States bordering Nepal have been advised to strengthen policing/patrolling and maintain strict vigil on the border. Customs formations and DRI officers are also keeping strict watch on the movement of third country goods to Nepal on import from Calcutta port, to prevent deflection/diversion into India.